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British Ship Seized

Singapore, Feb. 20. The British merchantman "Fortune" sailing out of Singapore was seized on Feb. 8, by the Dutch Navy when the ship entered Cheribon Roads with fire burning in two holds and attempted to unload prohibited cargo.

Commander G. B. Fortuyn of Kortenaar said he gave the "Fortune" captain permission to unload cement which was loaded. Burning coal prevented firemen from getting at the flames. He said when he returned to the ship four days later he found the fires still burning, the cement unloaded and the crew busy removing 350 bicycle tires from the after holds.

The "Fortune's" captain told the Dutch that his ship's engines had been damaged to prevent the ship from sailing and the Dutch Navy repaired the engines.

Fortuyn said the captain agreed to take the ship to Batavia only after the Dutch threatened to put a crew aboard. He said it arrived at Batavia four days later with coal still burning and "nobody paying any attention to the fire."

The Dutch ordered the ship to Batavia because it was suspected of carrying prohibited cargo without permit in Dutch territorial waters. It is owned by the Singapore, Hong Kong Shipping Company of Singapore.—United Press.

THE WEATHER

The intense anticyclone persists over China, S. Japan and the China Sea. A trough of low pressure has developed in the S. of Northern Honkong.

Today's Forecast—Strong N.E. wind offshore; moderate N. and N.E. winds inshore; weather cloudy and cold.

Yesterday's Weather—
Maximum: 64—Min: 46—Fah.
Minimum: 50—Max: 64—Fah.
Sunshine: 10 hrs.
Rainfall: Nil. Total since Jan. 1—29.1 mm., at least an average of 6.5 mm.

All Not Well On The Rice Front

Singapore, Feb. 19. Stating that events justified the warnings he had given earlier that better rice allocations to southeast Asia territories for the first six months of the year did not justify any relaxation, Lord Killearn, at the Southeast Asia Liaison Officers' Conference ending at Singapore today, added a special warning of rice exhaustion in the Netherlands East Indies, which he called "the greatest danger point on the whole rice front."

Lord Killearn said that the position of the unrationalized part of the town population of Batavia and the rural districts around Sourabaya was alarming. The death rate from under-nourishment was rapidly becoming apparent.

A programme of 17,000 tons monthly was required between January and April to maintain the total cereal ration of 4 1/2 ounces daily. So far, they were 13,000 tons short of the appropriations.

The new procurement scheme in Siam, put into operation on January 20, he said, had resulted in increasing the flow of rice arriving at Bangkok from January 27 onwards. Unless unforeseen conditions arose, it was confidently expected that the March programme would be achieved.

Siam Cautious
Representatives of the combined Siam Rice Commission expressed caution about the prospects of the new scheme, he added. They had accepted the January-March shipment programme in full, but did not feel justified in making a figure for April. Major Anderson, Director of the Siam Rice Commission, said that the Siam Rice Commission was not prepared to make a figure for April.

BIG FREEZE-UP CONTINUES

Ice Endangers Shipping Off Norfolk

DAUNTLESS BRITAIN

Melbourne, Feb. 19. Stating "we can never repay the debt we owe to dauntless Britain, when in 1940 'she stood alone,'" Sir Howard Lloyd, Chairman of the Bank of Adelaide, writing in the "Melbourne Herald," a special financial supplement, said:—
"A few years ago, would be for the Australian Government to make a straight loan to Britain of say £100,000,000, spread over a number of years, all of which he sent in the form of foodstuffs and raw materials."

Occupation Troops Kick

Tokyo, Feb. 20. It was unofficially reported here today that the British authorities at Kure in northern Japan have arrested a number of troops, believed to belong to the Dorsetshire Regiment, who refused to board the vessel Rajula, which was transferring them to Singapore.

The Rajula sailed yesterday with the first batch of United Kingdom troops transferred from Japan to Malaya. So far there is no confirmation of the incident. The troops are stated to have complained that conditions in the ship were not sanitary and staged a virtual sit-down strike until the military authorities intervened. The number detained was not known, it was stated.—Reuter.

PAPERS TORN UP

Paris, Feb. 20. A newspaper vendor selling Belgian papers outside a Paris underground station this morning was attacked by a group of press strikers who tore them all up. Several news-stalled Parisians protested and a brawl began which the police stopped.—Reuter.

Railways Blocked By Fresh Snow

London, Feb. 20. Snow powdered London anew today and more snow and gales were forecast as a "token strike" of 3,000 tugmen of coal barges on the Thames threatened to add to the city's woes. The unofficial strike, like that of truckers in January, was in protest against delay in the negotiations with masters on their demand for a regulated week in industry. The Union issued no statement and the men were expected to return to work tomorrow.

The Midlands' industrial plants planned partial reopening after the Monday switch-off of electricity promised yesterday by Prime Minister Attlee but most of the major industries, including the Austin Motor Company, Imperial Chemical Industries and General Electric, said today they would not be able to work a five-day week with the coal allotted them.

But as the cold passed its record-breaking nineteenth sunless day without promise of a let-up, stories of suffering came in from all parts of the country. Seamen heroically braving their little colliers through gales and heavy seas to get coal to fuel short Southeast England were reported to be suffering heavily from exposure and in some cases were hospitalized.

Naked Man In Snow

A baby was found abandoned on a doorstep in Southsea, wrapped only in a woman's shawl and suffering terribly from exposure. Thirty-three-year-old Olive Mills was rescued from the sea near Brighton under mysterious circumstances and was taken to hospital suffering from shock and exposure. The police are carrying out investigation.

Police at Purley Way, Walsingham, chased a naked man through snowdrifts until he collapsed. He was taken to a hospital at Goxdon for observation. For the first time since the great freeze of 1894-95 skaters on Friday will skate eight miles along the River Waveney from Beccles to Oulton Broad, Suffolk.

Ice Threat To Shipping

Icebergs from continental glaciers have crossed the North Sea threatening shipping and coastal shipping off East Norfolk. Four "sawers" were trapped by a floe but escaped when 40 miles off Great Yarmouth. Trains from Scotland were running into London late because of new snowfall and some lines were blocked. Hundreds of sheep were feared lost in Yorkshire and lambing time, now here, came at the worst possible time. Many lambs were lost.

Coal continued to arrive at London in large quantities. Colliers brought 25,000 tons to the Thames Estuary yesterday. Great Western R.R. brought 25,000 tons in 74 trains.—United Press.

Ships Iced In

Oso, Feb. 20. A convoy led by an ice-breaker may be sent to the relief of 40 ships stranded in the port of Kristiansand by persistent thick ice. The ships were bound for Oslo and Gothenberg. Continuing low

MOUNTBATTEN FOR INDIA?

Bombay, Feb. 19. It is strongly rumored in knowledgeable London quarters that Admiral Lord Mountbatten, former Supreme Commander of SEAC, will succeed Lord Wavell as Viceroy of India. Official quarters decline to make any comment upon the suggestion. The Admiralty announced in November that Lord Mountbatten had been appointed Rear-Admiral Commanding the First Cruiser Squadron, Mediterranean Fleet, the appointment to take effect in April this year. On January 6, he joined a senior officers technical course at Portsmouth.—Reuter.

Stampede In Ladies' Cloak Room

Capetown, Feb. 20. The Royal Family visited the historic naval base at Simonstown while Capetown officials investigated the peculiar disorder which broke out on Tuesday night in the cloak room of the hall attended by the King and Queen and the two Princesses.

The cloak room disturbance, which lasted for nearly two hours, broke out just after the Royal Family left the civil hall. As placed together from official sources, who declined use of their names, and from witnesses, this is what happened:

Cloakroom attendants left their posts to watch the Royal Family leave the hall. Several women became impatient and entered the room to get their own coats. There was a mixup and something like a stampede got under way. Faces were slapped and coats grabbed regardless of ownership before police and army men restored order.—Associated Press.

Coloured People's Ball

Capetown, Feb. 20. Four thousand of Capetown's 150,000 coloured population danced old time dances before the King and Queen and the Royal Princesses at the City Hall last night while at least 50,000 other coloured people watched outside. It was the Royal Family's first real contact with coloured people of the Cape.

Before entering their box, the King and Queen shook hands with 14 couples representing various non-European organisations. The Royal party stayed 30 minutes.—Reuter.

Murder Story An Invention

A "complete fabrication" was the description applied by his son to reports of an assassination attempt on Mr. Liu Hou-wu, Control Yuan Commissioner for Kwangtung-Kwangsi, in Canton on Wednesday evening.

The reports, which were published in several Chinese newspapers in Hong Kong and caused a sensation in the Colony yesterday, alleged that five shots were fired into Mr. Liu's car while he was on the way home from his office. It was stated that Mr. Liu's chauffeur was killed, following which the car crashed into an electric light standard, and that Mr. Liu himself was "seriously wounded."

Mr. Liu's relatives in Hong Kong declared they knew nothing of the reported attempt, and his son received a cable from his father later in the day stating the story was a "complete fabrication."

Attack On B.B.C. SMUTTY JOKES & TOO MUCH BING

London, Feb. 20. Embattled BBC, already plagued by accusations of Socialistic bias and commercialism in song-plugging, today found itself the object of parliamentary wrath because "70 per cent of its jokes are smutty." It gives overdoes of Bing Crosby which is as dangerous to listeners as alcoholism and it insulted the women of Scotland.

This bill of particulars was hurled last night during a wild debate in the Commons on a supplementary broadcasting appropriation of nearly £1,000,000 which was approved only after the BBC had been dragged verbally over the coals. Scottish Mrs. Jean Mann, Labour M.P. for Conbridge, led off with an attack on "Itma," a variety comedy programme which has more listeners than any BBC show.

Too Much Bing
"This programme has a Scots girl who was supposed to be falling off her head for that little twerp called Itma," Mrs. Mann said wrathfully. "In my generation no Scotswoman would have looked at him twice."

Walter Elliott, Conservative member for the Scottish Universities, complained that "for 40 days and 40 nights" the BBC "rains" Bing Crosby on the heads of the people.

Some listeners, he said, have a "horrid fondness for Bing but a wireless addict does more injury to his neighbours with his radio set always on than a drunk addict does except when he is in delirium tremens."

Inquiry Demanded

Wing Commander Geoffrey Cooper, Socialist for Middlesex borough, who originally raised the question of staff bribery in BBC song-plugging and brought about an official inquiry now under way, was ruled out of order when he tried to ask that the investigations be broadened.

This matter goes far beyond the allegations of gifts in connection with dance music broadcasts, he said. "I intend to press for a full-scale investigation into the BBC by an independent firm of business consultants and also the formation of a National Broadcasting Council representing broadcast users of all types.—United Press."

what I wanted. I found it rather difficult to get employment as I had not been in the country for about 10 years."

The magistrate intervened to say that Holland would be remanded until March 5 and bail would be granted if he could produce two sureties each of £500.—Reuter.

Ex-Shanghai Man On Grave Charge

London, Feb. 19. John Joseph Holland, 39-year-old seaman, who was arrested on an oil tanker at Hull, was charged in London today with entering the service of a German-controlled radio station in Shanghai in February, 1942, and entering the service of the Japanese broadcasting system in Tokyo in the same year.

A detective said that when shown a number of documents received from Australia, Holland replied: "These look like some of my broadcasts."

Holland told the magistrate: "I have been in custody practically since the end of the war. In February last year, I was taken by the Australian military forces to an island in the Celebes, where I was placed under open arrest. I had the opportunity for making an escape if I wished. I have a letter from the captain in charge which states that I am given complete freedom on the island and made no attempt to avoid arrest or to escape."

In June last, Holland declared, he was released by the Commonwealth authorities and offered a passage to Sydney, which he accepted. On arrival, he reported to the Security Police headquarters. No restriction was placed on his movements.

"I went to Western Australia, where I understood I was completely as liberty to do

BANK REFUSES INSPECTION

Canton, Feb. 20. The Central Bank of China here yesterday refused to submit its accounts for an inspection by the Kwangtung-Kwangsi Supervisory Office, which in conjunction with the Local Court has been carrying out an investigation to ascertain the amount of gold in Government and Provincial banks in Canton. The Supervisory Office, besides expressing indignation, declared that the Central Bank will be severely dealt with.—Central News.

Overseas Chinese Exempt From Order

Nanking, Feb. 18. Overseas Chinese will be exempted from the Government's order requiring the transfer of foreign exchange deposited abroad to Chinese banks, the Minister of Information, Mr. Peng Hsueh-pei, announced at a press conference today, in commenting on the measures recently promulgated for the stabilisation of China's economy.

This exemption will affect approximately 3,500,000 Chinese nationals living abroad. The measures governing foreign exchange specified that deposits in foreign countries must be transferred to Chinese banks or converted into National currency at the official rate of exchange.

Overseas Chinese residing abroad are exempted from this order, Mr. Peng stated, adding that detailed measures are being drawn up regarding this matter. Whether the Chinese Government will request the United States or other foreign Governments to freeze deposits in their countries belonging to Chinese citizens residing in China is also under consideration, he stated.

Colossal Sum
According to press reports from United States Treasury sources, Chinese deposits in the United States are estimated at over \$1,000,000,000. It is said that the Chinese Government is planning to transfer a large sum of these deposits to China for the stabilisation of the economy.

Terrorists Blow Up Pipe Line

Jerusalem, Feb. 20. The vital Iraq Petroleum Company pipeline was blown up and cut in two places near Haifa early today.

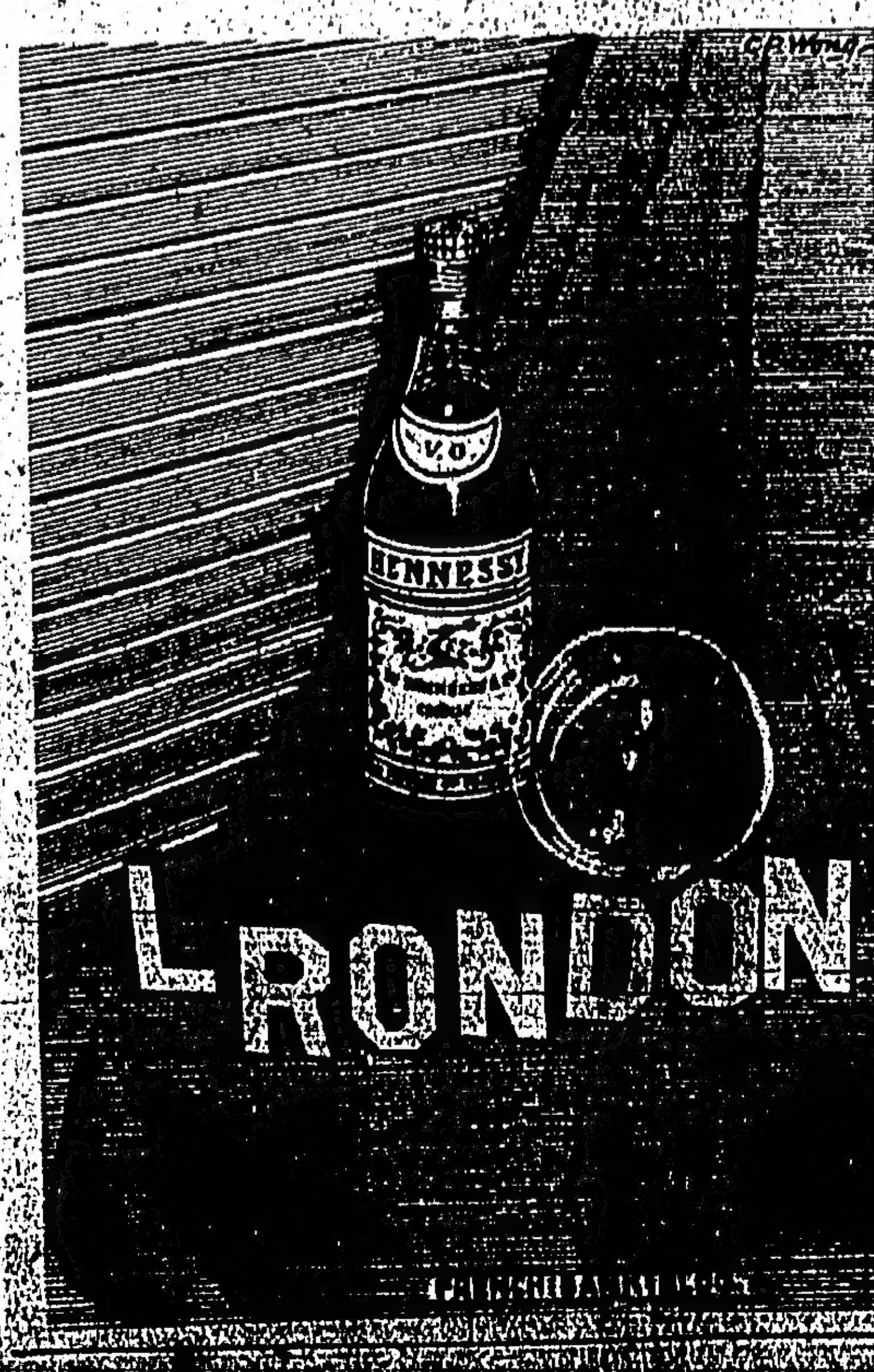
A communiqué said blasts severed the line in the interior near the refinery on Haifa Bay. The pipeline of the petroleum group which is an international concern, runs 800 miles from the oil field at Kirkuk in northern Iraq, through Trans-Jordan to Haifa. An official announcement said the Royal Air Force station at Ein Shemer near Haifa was attacked during the night with mortar and small arms fire. There were no casualties. The communiqué said that the pipeline was blown up in two places near Haifa.

Sino-British Air Talks

Nanking, Feb. 20. Members of the British Air Mission to China and a long meeting with the Chinese Government aviation authorities today, it was reliably learned, but the nature of their discussions was not disclosed.

However, it is expected that draft proposals submitted by both parties will be announced some time in April.

HENNESSY COGNAC BRANDY



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THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

SECOND EXTRA RACE MEETING

Saturday, 22nd February 1947.

The first bell will be rung at 1.30 p.m. and the first race will be run at 2.00 p.m.

Through numbers (8 Races—\$10)—may be obtained at the Office of the Treasurers, 1st Floor, Exchange Building, also tickets for the Special Cash Sweep (\$2.00) on the last race.

MEMBERS' BADGES AND ENCLOSURE

Members are reminded that they and their ladies MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the Meeting.

NO ONE WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE.

Badges admitting non-members to the Members' Enclosure and Club Rooms at \$10.00 including tax are obtainable through the Secretary upon the written or personal introduction of a member, such member to be responsible for all chits, etc.

Badges admitting to Members' Enclosure will NOT be on sale at the RACE COURSE.

The Treasurers' Comptroller Office will close at 11 a.m. and the Secretary's Office at 11.45 a.m. Both Offices at 1st floor, Exchange Building.

A limited number of tickets will be obtainable at the Club House, provided they are ordered in advance from the No. 1 Box (Tel. 27818).

NO CHILDREN WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE CLUB'S PREMISES DURING THE MEETING.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The price of admission to the Public Enclosure is \$5 including tax for all persons including ladies, and is payable at the Gate.

Bookmakers, Tie Men, etc., will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of The Hong Kong Jockey Club during the Race Meeting.

Refreshments will be obtainable in the Restaurant in the Public Enclosure.

SERVANTS' PASSES

Passes for Servants will be issued to Private Box holders ONLY on application to the Secretary, 1st Floor, Exchange Building.

Any persons found interfering with Servants' passes in their possession will forfeit the same and will be removed from the Enclosure.

By Order,
C. B. BROWN,
Secretary.

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Alasit
Conquers Pain

PASSENGERS CAN TAKE ANY TAXI THEY LIKE

H.E. On Memorial Fund

The Ordinance for the establishment and administration of a Hong Kong War Memorial Fund passed its second and third reading yesterday in Legislative Council.

Speaking in support of the Bill, His Excellency the Governor said:

"This is a measure with which I am sure, everyone of us must be in sympathy. In commending it to the consideration of the Council, I also commend to the consideration of the people of Hong Kong the opportunity which it will afford of making very liberal contributions to the Hong Kong War Memorial Fund."

"On this bill above us, there stands—but it will not stand for long now—the ruin of a war memorial which our enemy set up during their occupation of this Colony. In its place we do not propose to erect any memorial of concrete or stone or brick."

"It has been decided on the recommendation of the War Memorial Committee that we in Hong Kong shall honour and remember our dead by helping the living, particularly the dependents of those who gave their lives in the battle of resistance against aggression; and this decision has, I believe, met with universal approval."

"As soon as this Bill becomes law, a committee which it contemplates will be set up and it will not be long before its appeal will be issued to the public. It is my earnest hope and expectation, in which I know this Council shares, that the appeal will meet with a most generous response from every section of the community."

Also passing the second and third reading were the Ordinances to amend further the Pensions Ordinance, 1932, and the Police Force Ordinance, 1932.

Shaw Play At Star

The Hong Kong Stage Club is presenting Bernard Shaw's "Heart-break House" at the Star Theatre next week for four nights, Wednesday to Saturday. Shaw himself has produced this play as his best work, describing it as a "Fantasia in the Russian manner on English Themes." It can indeed be very well compared with Chekov's "Uncle Vanya." Written to arouse certain classes in England from their lethargy and indifference to foreign affairs, "Heart-break House" represents cultured, leisured Europe before the first World War. The House, belonging to an eccentric and ancient scientist, Captain Sholover, is inhabited by intelligent and well-educated people but it is made clear that the Government of Britain and the Empire is left to empty-headed capitalists and numskulls who rule with a rod of bamboo.

But apart from its political theme, the play has a clever plot and humour, to satisfy even the followers of Coward and Rattigan, and a charm which veils the harshness of the Shawian doctrine. There is even the element of excitement produced by an air raid in the final act. Besides the eccentric Captain Sholover, the other nine characters are all extremely well drawn and include an original Burglar, who enters the house with the intention of being caught.

For this, their most ambitious production, the Stage Club has a very strong cast, more than half of whom have had experience in repertory or professional theatre. The Club is confident that the support shown by the public in the past will again be well rewarded. This show is being followed almost immediately by another Stage Club play—a thriller—Patrick Hamilton's "Reverie," which will run for six nights at the Star Theatre.

SALVATION ARMY APPEAL

The Salvation Army is appealing for contributions to its appeal for the relief of the homeless and destitute in Hong Kong. Contributions may be sent to the Salvation Army, 1st Floor, Exchange Building, or to the Salvation Army, 1st Floor, Exchange Building, or to the Salvation Army, 1st Floor, Exchange Building.

Can a person take any public vehicle he likes or must he take the first one in the ranks? This oft-debated question was finally settled by Mr. Latimer at Kowloon yesterday when His Worship decided that the Ordinance governing public cars does not apply to the travelling public.

When the summons issued by the Traffic Department against Chan Wing, driver of a Kowloon Taxicab Co. taxi, for accepting hire out of turn at the Star Ferry kerb was called, S/I Bell applied for permission to withdraw the summons. He stated that as a previous case had to be withdrawn, he was not prepared to go on with the present summons which was issued prior to the hearing of the other one.

Mr. Hugh Jones, for the defence, objected to the withdrawal on the ground that the case was one of great importance and that he would like a ruling from His Worship.

"Rattle-Traps" He went on to say that the Kowloon Taxicab Co. had just received 27 brand-new cars which they put on the road. Some of these cars, said Mr. Hugh Jones, were parked at the Star Ferry among a lot of other taxis "which are so old as to represent rattle-traps."

His client, continued counsel, was the second in the rank when he was approached by a fare. He put his flag down and left the kerb.

Counsel then drew His Worship's attention to the Ordinance in question which stipulated that public cars were not permitted to leave the ranks to accept a prospective fare. This Ordinance did not say that a prospective passenger could not go up to any public vehicle he wanted.

On His Worship agreeing with his submission, Mr. Hugh Jones agreed to the summons being withdrawn.

Watchmen Helped Themselves

Three watchmen employed on board the s.s. "Rheinhold," together with another person not in custody, decided to help themselves to eight bales of cotton-wool, valued at \$300, when they went off duty at 5.30 p.m. on Feb. 18.

But the long arm of the law caught up with them, with the result that Wong Kwong, Wong Yui-hoi and Lee Wong made their bow to Mr. Latimer at Kowloon yesterday, charged with the larceny of the aforementioned goods.

After telling the Magistrate the whole of the story, S/I Askew added that Wong Kwong produced \$160 when he was arrested, with the information that it was his share of the proceeds from the sale.

As the three accused were employed through the Water Police, said S/I Askew, they were expected to be highly trustworthy. The Police, not unnaturally, took a serious view of this deviation from the path of honesty.

The Magistrate also took a serious view. The three ex-watchmen were given six months in Stanley Gaol to repent on the folly of their ways.

Wife's Story Not Believed

Lam Wai, who was remanded on Wednesday for the Police to investigate his allegation that he was wrongly arrested, was fined \$75 by Mr. Blair-Kerr at Kowloon yesterday on being convicted of unlawfully selling K.C.R. tickets at 7.20 a.m. on Feb. 18.

S/I Askew, prosecuting, informed the Court that inquiries had been made and the two plain clothes men referred to by accused found. They were in reality uniformed officers but were put on plain clothes duty as otherwise it would be impossible to arrest the ticket scalpers.

In evidence, PCC Lau Sai-kwong said that he saw defendant holding two tickets in his hand and offering them to the public at \$12 each (the official price is \$8.80).

Ma Hing, wife of the accused, testified that she went with him to the K.C.R. station to catch the morning train for Canton. While he went for the tickets, she said, she stood near the main gate keeping watch on the luggage. She saw two men in plain clothes approach her husband and search him.

In reply to S/I Askew, witness said that she did not accompany accused to the Police Station as she did not know where the two men went to with him. The next time she saw him was at home after he had been released on bail. S/I Askew: "I put it to you that your story is exactly, exactly the same as that of the accused, and that you have been told by him what to say?" "No."

HIGHER FINES FOR HAWKERS

These cases are getting on the increase, I will put the fines higher," declared Mr. Blair-Kerr at Kowloon yesterday when he was told by S/I Thomas that there was a total of 12 hawkers being charged with obstruction.

Fines of \$25 each were imposed on nine, including a juvenile, while three others who claimed to be unable to meet the amount were fined \$20 each (the amount of their bail).

Two hawkers, charged with peddling "food for man" (fresh fish), were fined \$75 or one month's hard labour each.

Story Of Threats To Pawnshop

The trial of three Chinese on charges of demanding money with menaces from the Wah Yick Pawnshop, 149 Nanchang Street was opened before Mr. Justice Gould at the Criminal Sessions yesterday.

They were Chan Tai, Fung Nam and So Yee, who were jointly charged, with one other not in custody, with uttering a letter on or about Nov. 16, demanding money from Lo Ka-lo, manager of the pawnshop.

Fung Nam was additionally charged with misprision of the felony of uttering a letter demanding money with menaces from the pawnshop. Chan Tai was also charged on two counts of possession of three handgrenades. So Yee was additionally charged with demanding \$500 from Lo Ka-lo with menaces.

Mr. A. Lonsdale, Crown Counsel, said that the case began in February, 1946, when Chan Kin-fan was convicted of an armed robbery at the Wah Yick Pawnshop. The next thing that happened was an explosion at the pawnshop in May, after which four letters were received by the manager requesting a payment of money.

The first letter demanded \$10,000 as indemnity and compensation for the convicted robber's family. The letter was signed with the name of Chan Wai, who threatened to use 10 cartons of TNT on the shop should it pay no heed to the letter or should it inform the police.

Same Signature As the pawnshop's ownership was transferred just before the explosion, the unfortunate buyer was the man to whom these letters were sent. All the letters were signed under the same name.

The pawnshop informed the police, who instructed it to arrange a trap by asking for some one to be sent to the shop to collect the money. On Nov. 21, third accused came to collect the money and was arrested. He took the police to a tea house in Shanghai Street where the second accused and one other were arrested. On further information, the first accused was apprehended.

As a result of what the man who later escaped said, Mr. Lonsdale went on, a search was made of a house in which the escaped man and the first accused lived. There the police found two sticks of Japanese-type handgrenades and an English-type handgrenade.

The letters were in fact signed by the escaped man, Mr. Lonsdale concluded. Lo Wing, pawnshop accountant, said that on Nov. 21 last, a Chinese detective and another officer were stationed at the shop. Third accused appeared and offered a suit of clothing. He then asked for \$500, adding that he was sent by Chan Wai, the writer of the letters.

Expert Evidence During the counting of the notes, third accused walked out of the shop, but was followed and arrested by the detective. Professor Ma Kiam, Lecturer in the School of Chinese, Hong Kong University, said in his opinion the letters submitted to him for analysis were written by the same hand.

The wife of the escaped prisoner said that first accused moved into her house at the invitation of her husband in August last year. He brought along a suit case in which she saw two sticks of handgrenades. Ten days later he brought another suit case in which there was another stick.

The case was adjourned to this morning.

Something Good At The Gloucester

On Saturday and Sunday, the Gloucester Hotel is presenting cabaret entertainment of a quality not seen in Hong Kong since pre-war days.

The Nelson Sisters are a brilliant team who have been appearing nightly at the Gloucester Hotel after Shanghai season and they are drawing crowds to the 8th Floor Restaurant. Their original Torch Dance is particularly appreciated.

In addition to the Nelson Sisters, the management have engaged Colores and Barri, who enjoyed a first-class reputation in Europe before coming out to the Far East. They have played at the Savoy and Piccadilly Hotels in London, and have appeared in many of George Black's productions.

George Parks and His Dance Orchestra will be playing as usual, and Miss Janet Node will be in attendance as vocalist.

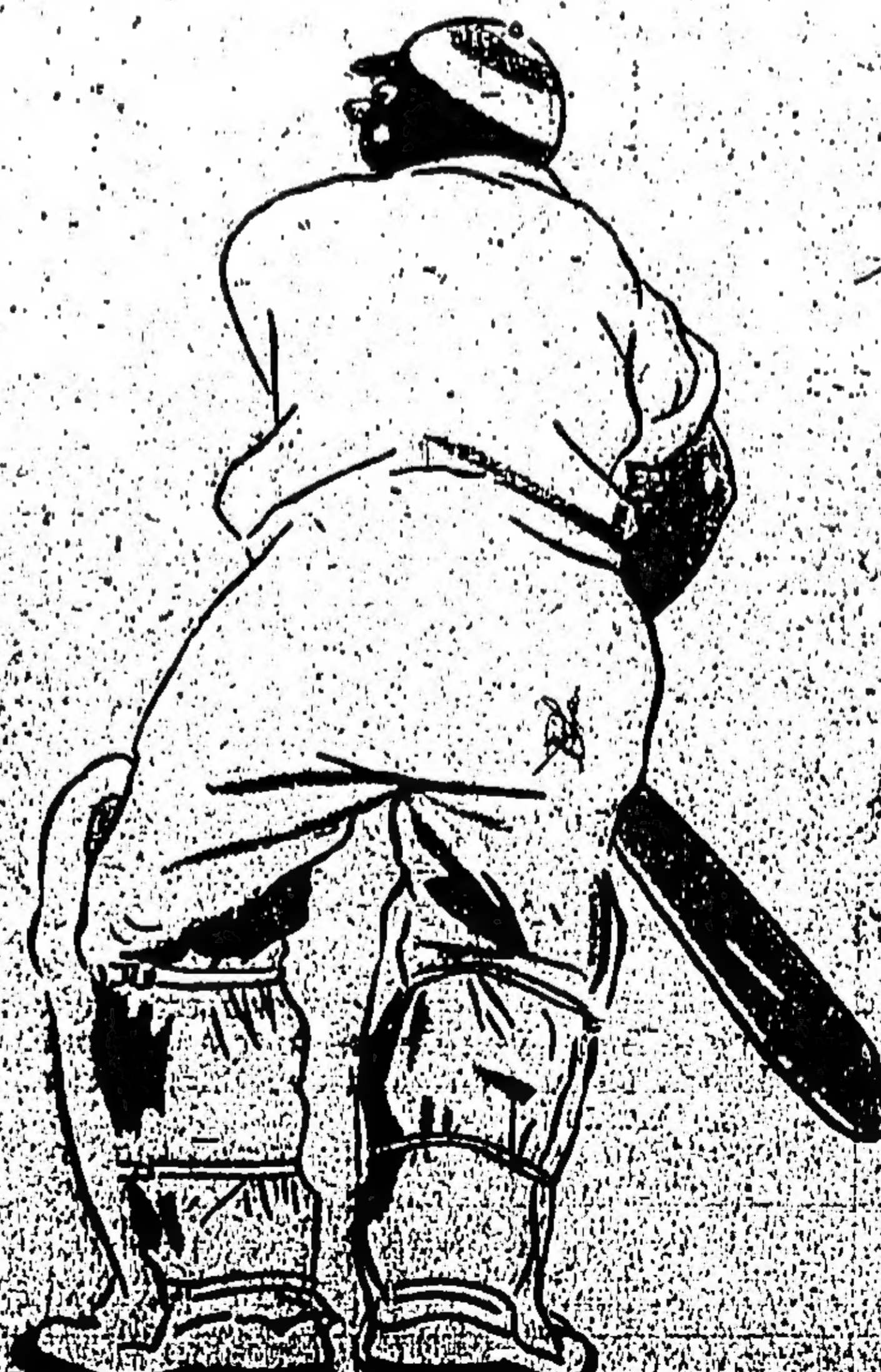
Money Market

Chinese National Currency weakened yesterday and at the close of the market quotations were 94 1/2 cents for futures and 47 1/2 cents for spot (for CN\$1,000).

Gold also slumped further and closed at \$273 a tael after opening at \$280. It had dropped to \$270 but made a slight rally towards the close.

Futures remained quiet, opening at \$11.50 per 100 and closing at \$11.50, after touching \$12.20, the peak rate of the day.

U.S. dollars were easier at \$4.90, and Sterling and Australian pounds were unchanged at \$15.00 and \$12.53 respectively.



"Here's on H.B. Now - try"

Irgun Also Wants Trans-Jordan

Jerusalem, Feb. 19. The Jewish terrorist organisation, Irgun Zvai Leumi, declared in a broadcast over its secret transmitter, the "Voice of Fighting Zion," tonight that Transjordan was included in "our plan of conquest."

The announcer added: "The whole of Palestine—east and west of the River Jordan—must be ours."

Students Demonstrate

New York, Feb. 19. Zionist college students throughout the United States were called on to demonstrate this evening against Britain's Palestine policy.

Mine Explodes

The "Daily Telegraph" from Jerusalem reported that an electrical-detonated mine exploded under a British Army truck at 10 p.m. today at Mount Carmel Road in Haifa.

SHIP'S CAPTAIN FINED Passengers On Top Of Cargo

The practice of carrying passengers on top of cargo on river steamers was condemned in the Marine Court yesterday when Captain William J. Andrews, master of the Hong Kong-Canton river steamer "Kwangtung" was fined \$2,150 by the Magistrate, Comdr. Ryder, for having on board 430 excess passengers on the trip down from Canton on Feb. 15.

Mr. D. G. Cairns, boarding officer of the Harbour Department, prosecuting, said when he boarded the "Kwangtung" at the Quarantine Anchorage on Feb. 15 he found the ship overcrowded with passengers, and a check-up revealed a total of 430.

Mr. J. H. Church, senior surveyor of ships, was called in to check on space available for passengers, and after making deductions for space occupied by cargo he arrived at the figures of 336 for the top deck and 166 for the lower deck, or a total of 502, so that the excess number carried was 430.

The number declared by Capt. Andrews was 853, and he said the difference was possibly due to fishermen who went on board as cargo owners without paying their fare, which was a usual practice.

Captain Andrews explained that the "Kwangtung" was reconstructed with all her cabins removed, and only deck space was left on which both cargo and passengers were carried.

It was the practice, especially since the reconstruction when shipping space was short, for passengers to be accommodated

BRITISH TROOPS LEAVE JAPAN

Kure, Feb. 20. The first men of the British Fifth Brigade left Japan today. The Second Battalion of the Dorset Regiment, aboard the Rajula, on Tuesday, when the men of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders and the Royal Welsh Fusiliers today boarded the Dilwara departing on Friday.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Peninsula Hotel arrivals include: Piers, Dillisham, H. J. Whitmore, T. L. E. Pore, W. J. Gledhill, P. J. Holman, H. B. Sanders, Talman, Kinchen, P. R. Mitchell, Duncan, McElbert, W. A. Johnson, Geo. K. Williams, Gifford, Col. G. A. Chester and Miss Alice Chue.

Peninsula Hotel departures include: William Gledhill, P. Lambert, P. R. Hitters and B. G. Lim.

UNRRA Announcement On China's Request

Washington, Feb. 20. UNRRA announced the Chinese Government requested \$200,000,000 worth of wheat and cotton instead of machinery and other materials originally earmarked for China relief. Major-General Lowell Brooks, Director of UNRRA, said the Chinese apparently contemplated selling the grain and cotton in an effort to crack blackmarket prices.

Major-General Brooks' statement said: "There's nothing in the proposal which would contemplate or permit sales in the black or any other irregular channels. The thought underlying the proposal is that the shipment and distribution of basic supplies to China would have a more immediate bolstering effect on the Chinese economy and Chinese currency position than continuance of the UNRRA programme as presently planned."

Major-General Brooks said the proposal is still in the discussion stage and would be taken up with the UNRRA Central Committee shortly.

Sampan Woman Commended

Found guilty of assault with intent to rob, Fan Wan-yung was sentenced to five years' hard labour and 10 strokes of the cane by Mr. Justice E. H. Williams, Puisne Judge, at the Criminal Sessions yesterday.

His Lordship warmly commended Lai Mui, an elderly sampan woman, for her courage in chasing and arresting Fan.

On Jan. 19, a gang, including accused, boarded Wong Fo-mui's junk lying at the Yau-mat Typhoon Shelter and pushed her into the water. The gang threatened to kill her if she raised an alarm.

A small boy shouted and there was a commotion, during which the gang escaped by sampans but Fan jumped into water.

The elderly sampan woman gave chase in her sampan struck him on the head with a board and drove him onto the boat. She tied Fan up and took him to the Government Pier, where she turned him over to the police.

Fan was sent to hospital, where his wounds were stitched.

Yorkshire Society's Appeal

At a well attended meeting on Wednesday of new and old members, it was decided to resuscitate the Yorkshire Society of Yorkshirians in Hong Kong.

The former Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. L. Fisher, opened the meeting by asking Mr. J. D. Danby to take the chair which the latter vacated in favour of the Hon. Mr. C. C. Roberts.

Mr. J. D. Danby (Past President) Mrs. W. Cox, F. W. Dunhill, J. G. Meyer, H. H. Mundy and W. Stoker.

A discussion took place as to what form the annual "get-together" was to take and the matter was left to the committee to decide.

Before closing the meeting, during which tea was served on the "eat, all, sup, pay" now principle, the President appealed to all present to enrol more members (of either sex) whose names should be sent to Mr. A. L. Fisher, Hong Kong Telephone Co. Kowloon or to any of the committee.

On Fire In Mid-Air

New York, Feb. 18. Rising for land with only two of its four engines working, a giant Air France "Constellation" airliner landed safely at Casablanca, French Morocco, today after a thrill-packed trans-Atlantic flight.

The last 400 miles of the overwater journey were made after the crew had sent a distress call, jettisoned all cargo and considered for a time the possibility of "ditching" in the sea near two ships which stood by.

United Press dispatches from Paris said the big land-plane reached Casablanca at 3.21 p.m. and made a normal landing with its six passengers and 11 crewmen—all safe.—United Press.

Film Review

"Hers to Hold" is a film which falls into that somewhat lamentable category of being a "near" action picture. It is mainly where it is being straight comedy is very good indeed, yet where the fun is taken out and mudlin sentiment substituted, it is also extremely bad. If it does nothing else it does at least introduce to the screen the rather strange combination of Joseph Cotten and Deanna Durbin. Deanna is as charming and her singing as fresh as ever (yet one might wish that she be given "interesting" songs to sing instead of old, well-worn, very humdrum, songs). Cotten is, not really, because of his part—which isn't of much account anyway—but merely by being Joseph Cotten. How about the two combined? Strangely enough it seems to work, and out of a worthless plot they have created a really good picture which has a reality of its own—probably very separate from what the director intended, and tried to create.

"Hers to Hold" has a war theme and handles the emotions of war fairly well, but by clearly as patriotism during the war. Yet it has something more, something apparently inconsistent with the rest of the film. There are some first-rate vignettes of sheer comedy, passing shots, which are very funny and add very much to the picture. The camera work and about half of the direction is good, but some one somewhere got the idea that during war time it would be a bad thing actually to produce something which was simply an amusing comedy. The result is a somewhat regular, unexciting, and unimpressive picture.

Prayer for the Boys Over There and absolute scenes of "Heath and Spelling" "Hers to Hold" is a film, sometimes a very near miss, but it is a very good one. You know what I mean.

Becky's Beauty Salon

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HONGKONG TRAMWAYS LIMITED NOTICE

On and from Saturday, 1st March, 1947, the tramway service West of Western Market will be resumed to WHITTY STREET as under—

From	To	First Car	Last Car
Causeway Bay — Whitty Street		6.01 a.m.	11.28 p.m.
Happy Valley — Whitty Street		6.00 a.m.	11.28 p.m.
Whitty Street — Causeway Bay		6.31 a.m.	11.59 p.m.
Whitty Street — Happy Valley		6.30 a.m.	11.58 p.m.

Also from the same date the special 12-minute service in the Godown Control area will be resumed between KENNEDY TOWN MARKET and WHITTY STREET with stopping places at Sand Street and Queen's Road West ONLY.

From To First car Last Car

Whitty Street — Kennedy Town		6.48 a.m.	9.48 p.m.
Kennedy Town — Whitty Street		6.54 a.m.	9.56 p.m.

PASSENGERS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO JOIN OR LEAVE THE CARS WITHIN THE ROAD BARRIERS ON THIS ROUTE.

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1st class 20 cents
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MARKET PRODUCE WILL NOT BE CARRIED.

Public attention is called to an amendment of Rules for regulating travelling in the tramcars of the Company by powers under Section 36 of the Tramway Ordinance No. 10 of 1902, published by the Hongkong Government Gazette Extraordinary No. 8 of 11th February, 1947, as follows:—

Rule 31. Any person offending against or committing a breach of any of these rules shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding one hundred dollars.

By notification in the same Gazette the Government Council has ordered that the foregoing amendment shall come into operation effective as from the 12th day of February, 1947.

W. F. SIMMONS
Deputy General Manager,
Acting General Manager.

Hongkong, 10th February, 1947.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION

ORDINARY YEARLY GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Ordinary Yearly General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Corporation will be held at the Head Office of the Corporation, 1 Queen's Road Central, Hongkong, on Friday the 28th day of March, 1947, at 11.30 a.m. for the purpose of receiving and considering the reports of the Directors and of the Auditors and the Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1946, and for the election of Directors and the appointment of Auditors.

The Register of Shares of the Corporation will be closed from Monday, the 10th March to Friday, the 28th March, 1947 (both days inclusive) during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board.
A. MORSE,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 20th Feb., 1947.

NOTICE

THE HONGKONG & YAU-MAT FERRY CO., LTD.

All persons, firms or corporations having claims against the above-named Company with respect to transactions prior to 31st December, 1946, are kindly requested to submit such claims, with supporting details where possible, to the registered office of the Company, 144-148 Des Voeux Road, Central, 1st Floor, Hongkong, on or before 28th February, 1947.

Claims are required for registration purposes only.

Acceptance of any claims lodged is not to be construed as an admission of liability.

Hongkong, 21st Feb., 1947.

PAINT & WALL DECORATIONS

Paint and wall decorations, heavy brushing, etc., all at reasonable prices. Estimates, plans and specifications sent on request. Call on Mr. J. H. BAKER, 111, Des Voeux Road, Central, Hongkong.

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AUCTION SALE

BY ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR OF DISPOSALS

FOR EASTERN AREA (M. O. S.) Messrs. Lammer Brothers of Pedder Building, Hong Kong, have received instructions to sell by Auction at their Sales Rooms, Pedder Building — Basement, at 9.30 a.m. on Saturday, the 22nd day of February 1947:—

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Permits to view, Catalogues, Special Conditions of Sale, etc., may be obtained from Messrs. Lammer Brothers.

Inspection of the above Stores and Lories can be made between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, the 20th and 21st February 1947.

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TWO or three room flats required. Furnished or unfurnished. Apply Box No. 270 "China Mail."

Service Auction Rooms

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PUBLIC AUCTION

The undersigned has received instructions from the Custodian of Property to sell by Public Auction

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The above-mentioned articles will be open for inspection at the Custodian K.I. Godown, Ma Tau Wei Road, Kowloon, on 19th and 20th February, 1947, between 10 a.m. and noon and between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Inspection Permits will be issued by the Undersigned at his Auction Rooms.

The Auction is subject to the Conditions of Sale published in the Hong Kong (British Military Administration) Gazette Volume 2, No. 12 of 6th March, 1946.

A. E. B. DE SOUSA,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 10th Feb. 1947.

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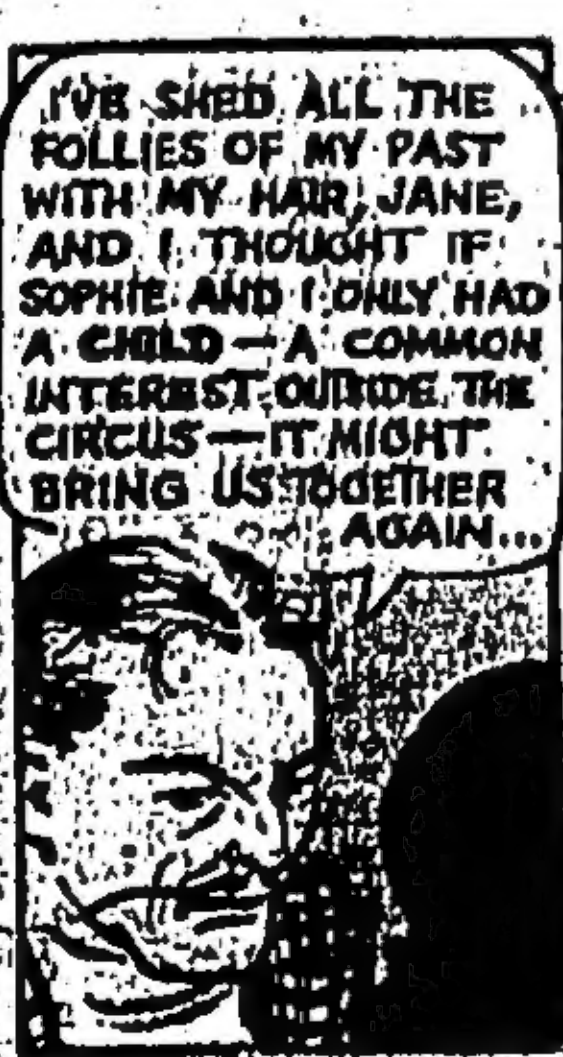
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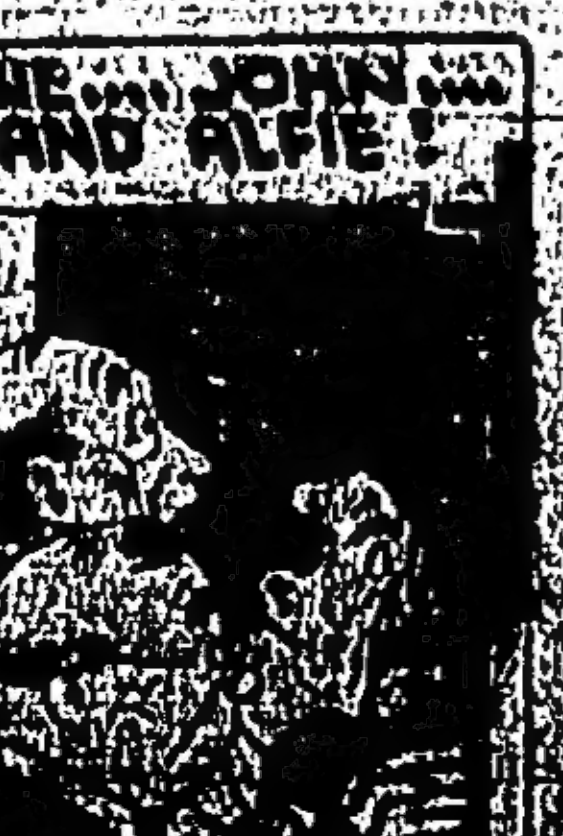
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THE RANCHI INFLUX

A few more embarrassments to Government akin to the discovery that it has to cater for 138 new arrivals in the Ranchi when only 38 were expected, and it is possible that a more positive policy on housing might be forthcoming. Treated as numbers, rather than as a group of human beings, and it seems somewhat fantastic that a difference of 100 persons to a Colony the size of Hong Kong should drag from Government an official admission of "grave doubts as to whether accommodation is likely to be found for the new arrivals." Somehow or other, of course, all will be absorbed, even if it is, as Government suggests, "on a very austere basis." That, however, is beside the point; or worse, Government has an altogether too coexistent habit of assuming that accommodation of any kind once found, however austere, and the matter is settled, the difficulty overcome. The discussion visited on Government by the shock provided in the revised list of impending Ranchi arrivals can be of wider value outside it impresses upon those officials who are concerned with housing, directly or indirectly, that they have had frequent enough reminders of the need for energy and initiative in tackling the overall problem. Thus far, the record has been a dismal one. It is, indeed, we imagine, more than coincidence that concerning all its various activities, those affecting housing are also those about which Government preserves the closest silence. Futility, vacillation, or plain indifference, are things which even the most successful P.R.O. must have difficulty in translating into an acceptable picture. Unfortunately, the problem remains in spite of official persistency in blinking its eyes to it, and in spite of the survival of occasional crises such as that threatened by the Ranchi influx. In the past, these have been overcome, more often than not, by pressure on the Services resulting in the release of requisitioned property. And in this, of course, whether the viewpoint is popular or not, is to be found the only key to solution of the immediate difficulties. Quite frankly, the Services are still in occupation of civilian residential property on a scale justifying criticism "if only on the ground that, since the re-occupation of Hong Kong, they have had eighteen months in which (starting from the proposition that they could not reasonably expect indefinitely to retain possession of private property commandeered under emergency conditions) to build for themselves. Sooner or later, it is unavoidable, and it is pertinent to enquire, why not sooner? The homeless civilian would, undoubtedly, be a trifle more patient on this score, were he satisfied that in all cases the best use was being made of the requisitioned property and that no element of dog-in-the-manager existed to arouse hostility. In this connection, particularly in view of its Ranchi anxieties, Government might find it worth while to examine once again the Service tenure of properties in Argyle Street, the Kadoorie Estate and elsewhere in that region, generally of Kowloon. Without investigation, it is not for us to repeat the allegations that have been and are being made, but there has been a circumstantial consistency about them which would seem to warrant official inquiry with a view to their early release. Sometimes some of us are liable to forget that the British Military Administration (and military law) terminated in Hong Kong ten months ago. The acuteness of the housing shortage, intensifying progressively in accordance with easy predictions, suggests that the time has come to "render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's."

The United States Government has returned to Australia \$4,749,507 in gold coins and bars looted from the National Bank of Australia by the Germans, and recovered in the American zone of Austria by the U.S. Army—Associated Press.

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BRITAIN'S ECONOMIC ADVERSITY: A SURVEY

London, Feb. 19. Britain today faces a crisis as grim as any in her history; unless production and exports are increased in spite of the severe manpower shortage, there may be a serious national food shortage, inflation and inevitable cuts in the already austere living standards of this country. There is no doubt that the White Paper on the economic position of Britain, which lays these facts before the British public in terms of simple arithmetic, is one of the gravest documents ever issued by a British Government.

It can be summed up in three words: "Export or Die." Britain, explains the White Paper, needs to increase its exports to 75 per cent above the 1938 level—in spite of the manpower shortage, caused largely by the loss of millions of young men still in the Armed Forces, material shortages, and shortages of goods for home consumption.

No Way?

The most disturbing factor of the White Paper is that, according to all mathematical and economic rules, there seems to be no way how this can be done. If Britain achieves her export aim, it will be an economic miracle.

Sir Stafford Cripps, the President of the Board of Trade, who is in charge of the export drive, and is also responsible for deciding what goods may be released for the home market, summed up the situation recently when he said: "We have more jobs to do and we want to do them with our limited resources. Britain's problem is just that Cripps suggested three ways in which this country can get over its economic adversity:

1. The widespread re-introduction of part-time labour, especially for women.
2. New short cuts in production methods.
3. An end by employers and employees of all beliefs that stand in the way of a speedup in the work we can work less and earn more when there is not the production to give us that higher standard," said Cripps, "then we are heading straight for disaster."

Thus the economic stability of this country will depend on whether the Labour Government can persuade the British workers to work harder and to work longer hours.

Human Nature

And this is where the Government comes up against the fundamental factor of human nature. Any worker in the world is asked to work longer and harder,

Pressmen Will Be Sieved

Athens, Feb. 19. The Governments of Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia announced today that newspapermen to be admitted to those countries with the United Nations Investigating Commission will be carefully selected by the Governments and will not be admitted freely as proposed by the Security Council.

The three countries said the question of visas for the 11 newspapermen assigned to the commission was premature, since it has not yet been decided whether the commission would visit the countries. The commission press officer, Mr. Stanley Ryan, of Canada, last week formally requested visas for the representatives of United Press, Associated Press, International News Service, Reuters, Tass, Agence France Press, China's Central News and correspondents from Greece and other countries involved in the Balkan investigation—United Press.

Children, Spare A Dime

Vatican City, Feb. 20. The Pope in an 11-minute broadcast asked 2,600,000 Catholic school children in America to give their pennies and dimes to help save the lives of children in the Orient and Europe.

The broadcast was on the first day of Lent, opening a drive to aid child victims of the war. The Pope said many children in the war countries are victims of disease. Some are starving, many have only clothes and no shelter. He said: "We cannot rest as long as the pangs of hunger make their cry, and for help. Your pennies and dimes will buy bread and medicine which will help save the lives of some less fortunate children." Associated Press.

At the moment, he gets very little return for his work. Britain is the highest-taxed country in the world, and a large percentage of the worker's income is deducted under the "Pay As You Earn" income tax scheme—that is the scheme's official name—before he gets his wages.

Thus a typical married worker, who earns £40-0-0 a week, has 10 shillings deducted for income tax before he receives his wage packet. In addition, there are compulsory deductions for health and unemployment insurance, a single worker earning £25 a week has 10 shillings deducted for income tax and insurance contributions.

If a worker works overtime, his added earnings often bring him into a higher income tax category. The more he works, the more money he receives is deducted, that his effort is hardly worth while.

Just Beginning

But when a worker has paid his income tax, his taxation is only just beginning. There is the enormous purchase tax on all kinds of goods. Half a pint of cheap and watery beer costs 7½ pence. Twenty cigarettes—pre-war price 1 shilling—now costs 2/4. A cheap cinema seat costs 1/6.

Even if a worker makes a handsome sum at the end of the week, he can buy very little with his money. Clothes are strictly rationed, and so are food. There are few worthwhile goods to be bought and those goods that are in the shops are so expensive that many workers and their families prefer not to buy them. It is therefore hardly surprising that many workers prefer spare time to spare cash.

The British worker's war record was admirable. There were hardly any industrial disputes during the war, workers cheerfully put up with often appalling working conditions, worked as much as 72 hours a week and performed industrial miracles. Today, the British worker instinctively wants to "ease up". He is, like most Britons, extremely "war-weary" and feels he has earned better conditions and shorter hours.

Cynical

What is more, the British worker is rather cynical. He remembers only too well the between-the-wars years of unemployment and frustration and of exploitation by employers, with the constant threat of the unemployed men's queue in the back-ground.

There are many who feel that now and just now, when every worker is vitally needed, is the time to fight for a general improvement of working conditions. This is the factor behind most of the recent strikes for more pay and shorter working week. It is the reason why, in spite of strenuous Government opposition, the Trade Union Congress last autumn demanded the general introduction of the 40-hour week.

It is true that many workers realise the seriousness of the situation. They know what an economic breakdown would mean for them. They also want to support the Labour Government, to keep it in power behind most of the legislation it has introduced. But even among these patriotic and economically conscious workers, there is a strong "human nature factor"—the deeply

ingrained idea of leaving things to the other man.

More Inducements
The Government realises that the only way to get workers to work harder and for longer hours is to offer them inducements more tangible than half-understood economic terminology and stringently worded appeals to political loyalty.

It is expected that such inducements will be offered in the second White Paper on the economic position of Britain, which is to be published later this week. Hugh Dalton, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, is, according to well-informed political circles, considering to provide incentive for the workers in his next budget, due early in April. This may mean a reduction in taxation, and possibly tax-free overtime earnings.

Sir Stafford Cripps may find it necessary to release more goods for the home market to give workers incentive to earn more by producing more for export. His quandary is that these goods market goods will have to be produced first.

It is a vicious circle, but Britain's national solvency will depend on the solution of the problem. —United Press.

French Policy Swinging To The Western Powers

By JOSEPH E. DYNAN

Paris, Feb. 19. France's new Government by its present indications now is directing its foreign policy toward a new version of the western bloc, this time economic, if not political.

If so, this means France has decided to cast her lot with the United States and Britain in the forthcoming Foreign Ministers' meeting in Moscow on issues concerning Germany and Austria.

Such a policy spurred by Leon Blum's recent journey to London, would embody advice given almost a year ago by General de Gaulle when the first President of the Provisional Government urged his successors to join with Britain as a bulwark against Communism.

Federal Germany

Three western members of the Big Four already are in accord on a federalized Germany, opposed by the Soviets, and of principle of close economic co-operation among the nations of western Europe in development of the Ruhr Valley's industrial might. These are agreements in principle.

Differences exist on modes of application, but America, Britain and France all want Ruhr plants controlled and their produce spread over the western end of the continent.

France in a recent memorandum on economic control of Ruhr steel mills and coal mines, envisaged a region whose industrial pillars—owned by all the Allies who fought against Germany—would be operated by the neutral neighbors in the west. The mills and mines would distribute their output for the mutual benefit of all nations in the area, instead of for some future German "war machine."

The French propose to complement this internationalization of Ruhr resources by shifting the European industrial centre of gravity westward. New steel mills would be established on French, Belgian and Luxembourg soil near sources of ore, Ruhr

CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



"I always charge everything I buy here! I just don't like to be alone on the street with all that money!"

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MONEY IN HAND?

Washington, Feb. 19. Britain is drawing on the United States' loan at the rate "rather less than anticipated," Mr. John Snyder, Secretary of Treasury, said today. At a press conference, he was asked if the rate of withdrawal was greater than anticipated when the agreement was signed.

He replied: "I think rather less than anticipated." Mr. Snyder disclosed that Britain has not drawn any credit since January, by which time the total withdrawals stood at \$800,000,000.—Reuter.

BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By Shepard Barclay

"The Authority on Authorities"

"UNNECESSARY" FINESSE

One of the prettiest of the simpler plays, seldom used by most players, but every once in a while by keener cardmen, is what might be described as "the unnecessary finesse." The purpose of the play is not to win a trick in the finesse itself. It is to cause a trick to be won in the hand where the finesse is taken, instead of in the opposite hand. Reduced to simpler terms, it is for the purpose of creating an additional entry in the hand which needs it for one purpose or another.

S. 8 6 4 2
H. A J 5
D. A 7 3
C. J 8 6

S. Noe
H. 10 9 8 7 2
D. 10 9 8 7 2
C. A K 10 5

S. A Q J 10 8
H. K 4
D. K Q J
C. 6 4 3

(Dealer: South. Both sides vulnerable.)

South West North East
1 S 2 S 2 S 2 S
2 S 2 S 2 S 2 S
3 S 3 S 3 S 3 S
4 S 4 S 4 S 4 S
5 S 5 S 5 S 5 S
6 S 6 S 6 S 6 S
7 S 7 S 7 S 7 S
8 S 8 S 8 S 8 S
9 S 9 S 9 S 9 S
10 S 10 S 10 S 10 S
11 S 11 S 11 S 11 S
12 S 12 S 12 S 12 S

behind the East player was thinking silently. "This contract is as good as set, since South can't help losing another trick to the East. But he had not reckoned adequately on the declarer's skill."

When East returned the diamond 8 to the fourth trick, South had already reckoned that his contract depended entirely on avoidance of a loser in the trump suit. So, to get in position for the earliest possible lead toward his own hand, he took the diamond with dummy's A. Then he finessed the spade J and it won. But when West discarded, a heart, South was in a bit of a quandary. "Now, flustered, South, who would have led trumps through East twice more to pick up his trumps. But the only apparent entry in dummy was the heart A. A bit of study showed him a second entry. If West had the heart Q, he finessed the spade J. When it won, he finessed the spade D. Then he led his heart K to be overtaken by the A and finessed the spade K. His A dropped the now unguarded heart, and the contract was secured. South, with some more spade and two diamonds."

Soviet Criticism Of U.S. "Imperialism"

New York, Feb. 19.

Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov has not yet answered U.S. Secretary of State General Marshall's vigorous note in defence of Under-Secretary Dean Acheson, but Soviet criticism of United States "military imperialism" by the maintenance of troops in China and "many countries" was renewed today by Radio Moscow.

Commentator Anatoli Osipov said the presence of American troops in non-enemy countries is one of the most serious questions in post-war international relations. He quoted former Interior Secretary Harold Ickes that President Truman has gone back on his word that the United States does not seek territorial expansion.

Osipov said the United States has troops in Europe, Greenland, Iceland, Australia, South America, the Arctic and the Near and Far East. He said the democratic people of the world seek no justification for the presence of American troops in enemy territories. "Imperialism," he said, "is the policy of the United States. The people who have fallen under the American yoke are the victims of American imperialism."

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"OPERATION SWITCH-ON"

Electricity Supply Restored To The Industrial Heart Of England No Relaxation On Use Of Domestic Current

London, Feb. 19.

The Government tonight issued an order for "Operation Switch-On," which will on Monday restore electricity supply to the industrial heart of England, where vital export plants have been at a standstill for nearly two weeks. The area in which the use of electricity for industry will be permitted is centred on Birmingham and stretches to Crewe, Gloucester and Peterborough.

The Prime Minister, making this announcement in the House of Commons today, declared that the Government would not consider the situation safe in any area until two weeks' stocks were built up.

Mr. Attlee also stated that the Government was initiating talks through the Minister of Labour between employers and trade unions for staggering hours of work in the restored area, so as to spread over the industrial load.

Perfectly Mutual Approach

London, Feb. 19.

During the past few days, there has been unofficial contact between the British Ambassador in Paris and the new Spanish Republican Administration, Mr. Bevin, Foreign Secretary, stated in a parliamentary answer today.

Mr. Bevin said that Mr. Bevin did not agree that the Spanish Republican Government was one of the principal factors which must be taken into account in finding a democratic solution in Spain and that he was aware that the composition of the new Government was such that it would welcome his help and advice.

Mr. Bevin replied: "It is so recently formed that I must wait and see whether it has stability. When Mr. E. Degue, Bourne, Conservative, asked why I had not initiated this contact, Mr. Bevin replied with laughter: 'I think it was a perfectly mutual approach.'"

Poland

Mr. Bevin said today that he did not think any useful purpose would be served by withdrawing Britain's recognition of the Polish Government which would sever her contact with Poland. When Sir Thomas Moore, Conservative, who had raised the matter in the House of Commons, asked what step if any the British Government was going to take next, "as the Polish Provisional Government has apparently got away with this monstrous travesty of free election," Mr. Bevin replied: "To carry on the process of conversation."—Reuter.

The areas in which the use of electricity for industry is still banned are the south-east, including London, and the north-west. Mr. Attlee said that Parliament would be notified when it was considered safe to re-start industry in those areas also. "We do not want rashness, but we do not want timidity," Mr. Attlee said.

The Fuel Ministry announced tonight that yesterday Britain's electricity undertakings had enough coal in stock to keep going for 13.5 days over the country as a whole, but London's power stations had only 11.5 days' stocks, based on restricted consumption estimates.

The Government's restoration of power to the Midlands' industries does not imply any relaxation of restrictions on domestic use of electricity, which still stand at the five-hour ban daily. The Ministry of Fuel spokesman, Sir Guy Nott-Bower, warned in a press conference that the "gas position is nothing like satisfactory, but there is no question just now of gas restrictions."

The Ministry of Fuel warned the nation that an adequate margin of safety had not yet been reached and urged citizens rigidly to observe regulations and exercise the utmost economy in the use of electricity and gas. The Prime Minister rejected the suggestion by a Conservative Member of Parliament that he should make a special appeal to workers and employers to suspend all restrictive practices and work longer hours for six months to make up for lost production. Mr. Attlee told Parliament that on full resumption of work, he was confident that employers and workers could be relied on to observe regulations and to take any steps necessary to make up for lost production.

Miners are tonight being urged to make a decision about Sunday work this week-end. In the South Wales anthracite field the Abercrombie colliery reported that production would be maintained throughout Sunday. Coal production last week in the West Midlands was 13,000 tons up on the corresponding week of last year.

Returning To Work

The total number out of work through power cuts climbed yesterday to 2,14,000, it was reported.

Albania's Reply To Britain

Lake Success, Feb. 20.

Albania flatly disclaimed any responsibility for laying mines in the Corfu Channel as charged by Britain and in turn accused British ships of violating her territorial waters.

Albanian representative Hysni Kape, appearing before the United Nations Security Council, said: "I deny flatly and categorically the charges that have been made." Charging the British with "flagrant violations" of Albanian waters, he said that Royal Navy warships entered the channel off the Albanian coast to provoke and intimidate his country.

Kape talked for nearly two hours in opposing the complaint under which Britain seeks an apology and compensation for loss of life and property. Two destroyers struck mines in the channel last October 22 and 44 sailors were killed.

Soviet delegate Grigoryev spoke in the defence of Albania and insisted that the debate and charges were a sharp verbal exchange with Sir Alexander Cadogan, Britain's delegate.

The Council adjourned in the midst of the dispute and will resume discussion of the case on Wednesday. The case is being handled by the Security Council.

Empire Air Defence "In A Bad Case"

London, Feb. 19.

Geographically, Britain's Empire air defence is "in a bad case" on 1939 evaluation, Air Marshal Sir Philip Joubert, wartime chief of R.A.F. Coastal Command, told the Royal Empire Society in London today.

"The granting of independence to India and Burma, the difficulties in Egypt and Palestine, and the growth of nationalism in Ceylon, all seem to mitigate against an orderly plan of Empire defence," he declared.

"Bases which were once securely in our hands and in territories friendly to us are no longer under our control. Treaties of mutual assistance may emerge in time, but they are not yet signed, and until then we can do little but wait for the outcome of political developments which we have encouraged in the past."

Britain, he added, fortunately still administered territories such as West and East Africa, Ceylon at present, and Malaya, which constituted "major strong points" where air bases and ground organisation could be maintained.

"The main lesson to be learned from the last war," he continued, "is that we have got to be very much better prepared than we were in 1939. Other parts of the Empire must now be called in to help in re-establishing the framework of our defence, which at present is somewhat out of alignment. Fortunately, the greatly improved performance of modern aircraft makes this possible."

In the whole picture of Empire defence, there was nothing more sinister, he said, than the prospect facing Britain if the high-speed constant-submerged submarines was not solved before the country was once more engaged in battle with an enemy possessing such weapons.

"Assuming that the future member will have a speed of sound, the business of intercepting and shooting it down now presents problems nearly insurmountable by present methods," Air Marshal Joubert said. "The interceptor fighter of the future may well be a relatively short-range guided missile, rather than an aircraft."

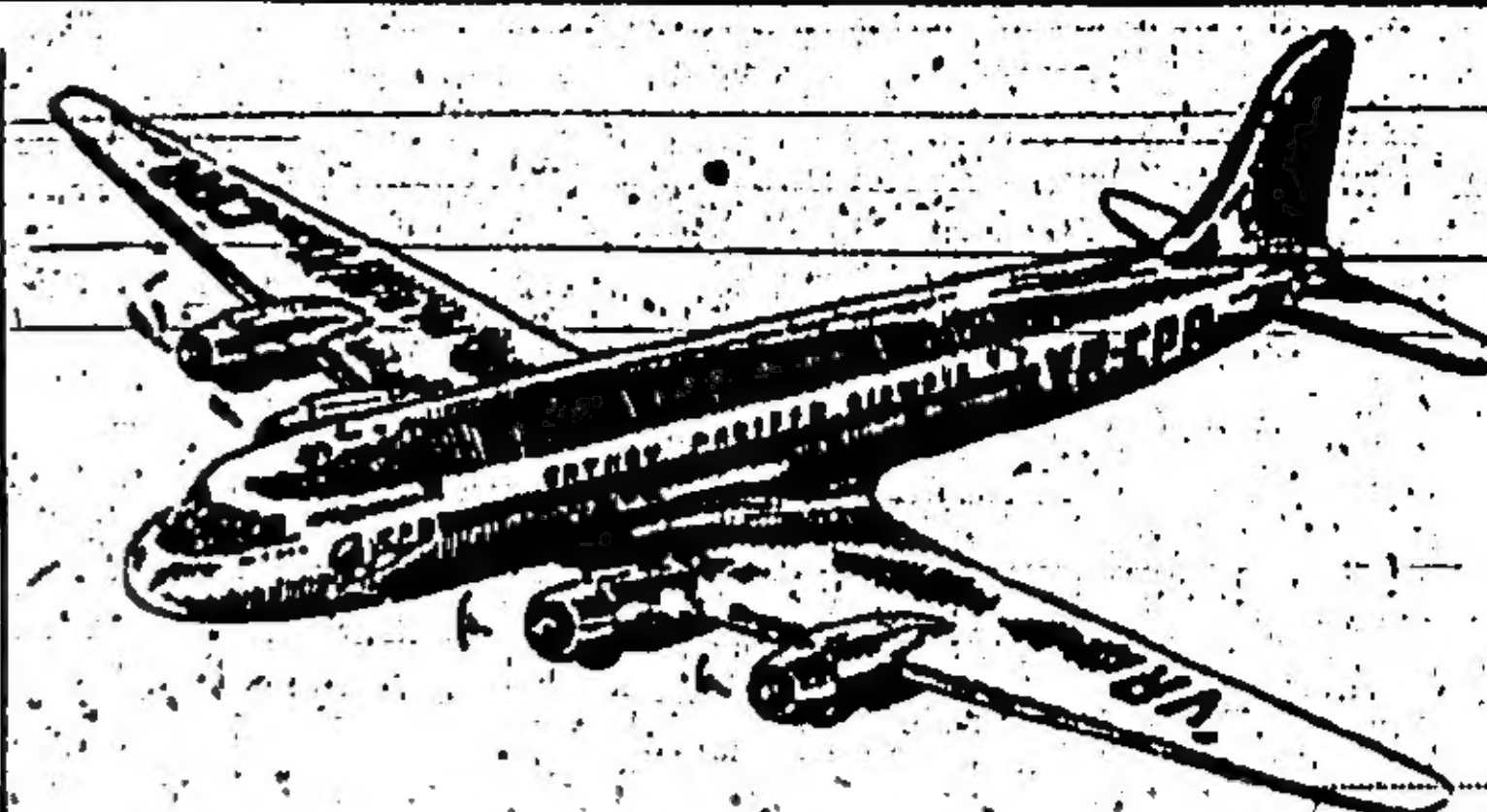
Also speaking at the Royal Empire Society was Air Commander Ewart, Air Officer Commanding Royal Australian Air Force in London, who said that dispersing resources as far as possible, and perhaps spreading the population throughout the various parts of the Empire, were the country's only hope.

Zeppelin Plotted

He revealed that in the summer of 1939—shortly before the war—Germany's "Graf Zeppelin" was plotted by the British coastal radar stations when it was flying down the North Sea.

"Her course and the various turns she made coinciding with the positions of these stations, clearly indicated that she in her turn was plotting them, and endeavouring to find their purpose," he said.

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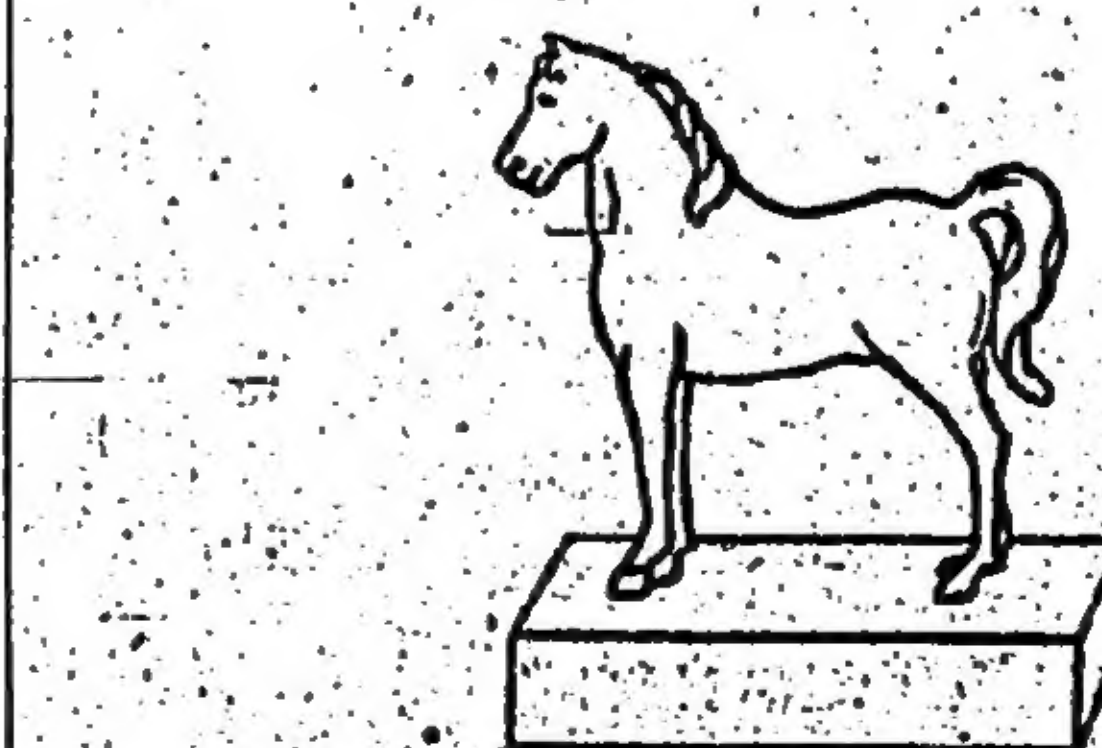
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SOCCER GROUNDS TURN INTO ICE RINKS

London, Feb. 20. Britain's fuel position is improving, but the soccer situation is still in the doldrums. Straight ahead of league clubs, who have already piled up a list of postponed fixtures that must be crowded into the end-of-season programme, there is the prospect of more cancellations on Saturday.

From all parts of the country there are reports that soccer grounds are just ice rinks and will not be playable unless there is a sudden and big thaw.

Weather forecasts, however, say that there are still more days and night of frost ahead. The Football Association, which has extended the current season until May 17, may be forced to grant a further extension if more league matches have to be postponed.

Two clubs, badly hit by the weather, Wolverhampton Wanderers, currently sitting the pace in the First Division, and Fulham, a Second Division London club, have not played a match for a month.

Rugby football is certain to be severely curtailed on Saturday, and there is more than a chance that the international match arrangement between England and France, at Twickenham, London, may have to be postponed until later in the season. On Tuesday, the English Rugby Union announced that although the ground had been protected by straw laid on it, there was a great deal of frost in the turf, and if the present frosty weather continued, the match might have to be postponed.

A decision will be made on Thursday afternoon.

Britain v. Europe

British football selectors with any eye to team-building for the Britain versus rest of Europe match at Hampden Park, Glasgow, in May were no doubt pleased that the ground at Goodison Park, Liverpool, was playable for Wednesday's fixture between the Football League and the Irish League.

The Football League fielded a very strong side. The eventual team to represent Britain will not differ from it by much, and selectors from the four home football associations were on hand to weigh-up the chances of

footballers who may be called upon to play for Britain. Before the match began, members of the Football Association had a series of talks on "broken time" reimbursement for amateurs for time lost when playing in international events. Specific items on their agenda dealt with football matches in the forthcoming Olympic Games.

Broken Time

While Britain is likely to move towards the continental viewpoint on this vital question, an Associated Press report from New York yesterday morning indicated that the United States Olympic Association would not relax its views on the status of amateur athletes.

Avery Brundage, president of the United States Olympic Association, was quoted as saying that, regardless of Britain's ultimate stand, the United States would vigorously oppose the granting of financial allotments for lost working time.

From all of this it would appear that Britain and the United States are not in step on a question that must be cleared up very soon.

There is more than an outside chance that British bodies may fall into line with the points of view of countries such as Sweden, Norway, Belgium, and Russia in the question of paying athletes for time lost from work. — Associated Press.

LOCKE LEADS

Capetown, Feb. 19. Virginia's Sam Snead, holder of the British Open golf championship, was one down to the South African champion, Bobby Locke, after the first 18 holes of their 72 holes challenge match, which began on the Peninsula course today. — Reuter.

Kowloon Chess Club

After a six-week delay caused by an adjournment and numerous postponements, the final game of the Kowloon Chess Club Reserve Tournament "A" was concluded on Tuesday night with a draw being agreed upon between R. C. Gardner and H. Ballerand in a closely-fought Queen's Gambit. Accepted that lasted a total of 4 hours, 15 minutes, and went to 40 moves. Gardner had the black pieces.

Gardner, thus emerging, winner of the Reserves "A" Tournament by a semi-half-point over F. X. Sequeira and Henry Knight. Starting as one of the least-favoured of the nine contestants, he conceded no losses and three draws. His performance in taking the Reserves "A" title automatically promotes him to Senior category.

A committee meeting to decide whether Sequeira and Knight are to be required to play off the title for second place or will both be considered eligible for the Club Championship.

Gardner conceded draws to Sequeira, Ballerand and Taux. Sequeira lost a point to Knight and half-points to Gardner and Carvalho. Knight lost to Gardner and Sequeira.

The full results were: —

	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
R. C. Gardner	6	3	0	9½
F. X. Sequeira	5	3	1	8½
H. Knight	6	0	2	6
H. Ballerand	1	3	5	4½
H. Taux	2	1	4	4½
V. Y. Kolshoff	3	1	5	3½
R. C. Denenberg	3	1	5	3½
Col. H. M. Williams	2	0	6	2
J. P. de Carvalho	1	1	6	1½

GYMDETHAS DEWISANT

All members of the St. David's Society of Hong Kong and other Welsh people, are reminded of the celebration of St. David's Day, and to apply for tickets for the GYMDETHAS DEWISANT.

HAMMOND'S LAST TEST-SERIES

London, Feb. 20. Under the headline "Hammond plans to play last" the Daily Herald said yesterday: "Walter Hammond, England's cricket Captain, in a letter to the Gloucestershire County Club, has said that he does not expect to be available for more than one or two games in the coming season."

He has, the Daily Herald understands, also made it clear that he does not wish to be considered for selection in any future England team. — Associated Press.

New Pool Scheme In Soccer

London, Feb. 19. Football League Clubs and their players were tonight told of the startling proposal, for the formation of a new pool which would pass back a big share of its profits to clubs, players and recreational bodies.

The scheme provides that the new pool should return more than 80 per cent of its net profits to three trusts funds covering the benefit of professional footballers, the benefit of professional and amateur football clubs, and financial assistance to the General Council of Physical Recreation.

The Players Union Committee has asked the clubs for their views and has invited all Union members to support the scheme. The financing of the Olympic Games is one of the benefits envisaged.

The Football Association and the Football League have repeatedly reiterated that they will have nothing to do with pools, but James F. Jones, secretary of the Players Union, says that if all clubs and players support the scheme, there is nothing to prevent a new pool functioning. If everybody is keen the issue will have to be forced, declared a Union Committee member. — Reuter.

H.K. Pre-War Tennis Stars Again On View

(By C.W.L.W.) Lawn Tennis in Hong Kong is happily coming back to its own, and all lovers of this attractive game may look forward soon to Championships and Handicaps. Entries for these events will close at 1 p.m. tomorrow and the battles will start on Monday, March 10.

The entries, so far, have been gratifying but there is always room for more aspirants to tennis fame. If an entry form cannot be secured easily in one of the many Clubs, it can be got immediately from Messrs. Percy Smith & Co., Windsor House, or the Hong Kong Sports Shop, Gloucester Arcade. It is believed that some of the fine players in the fields forces will swell the fields. All player-members of the Hong Kong Cricket Club are reminded that their lady-partners in the Mixed Double Handicap need not repeat — be a usual Cricket Club player.

Whilst mixed events are always colourful, the men's events will certainly bristle with close, and interesting affairs. If he changes his plan to go to England in late March, we are almost certain to see in action the Cambridge Half-Blue and Davis Cup Player, Mr. W. C. Choy.

The writer saw Mr. Choy play good exhibition tennis in India for the benefit of his country. Good on his heels will be those good sportsmen, the Tai Ping Brothers, who have placed their names in past annals of tennis history. The record of these brothers is old news, to pre-war (and, happy post-war) followers of the game, but for the benefit of the post-war and some people it may be worthwhile to skim quickly over their wins and losses.

Tau's Record
Tau's first match was a championship in 1934-1935, 1936 and 1937. After a start at age 18, he won in 1936-37 both Open Singles and Doubles. He also won the Chinese Open Singles and Doubles in 1937. He was runner-up in the Chinese Open Singles in 1938. He was runner-up in the Chinese Open Doubles in 1938. He was runner-up in the Chinese Open Singles in 1939. He was runner-up in the Chinese Open Doubles in 1939. He was runner-up in the Chinese Open Singles in 1940. He was runner-up in the Chinese Open Doubles in 1940. He was runner-up in the Chinese Open Singles in 1941. He was runner-up in the Chinese Open Doubles in 1941. He was runner-up in the Chinese Open Singles in 1942. He was runner-up in the Chinese Open Doubles in 1942. He was runner-up in the Chinese Open Singles in 1943. He was runner-up in the Chinese Open Doubles in 1943. He was runner-up in the Chinese Open Singles in 1944. He was runner-up in the Chinese Open Doubles in 1944. 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